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b<>com applies its SDN vision to Optical Networks

b<>com, the French Institute of Research and Technology (IRT) dedicated to digital research and innovation, is helping Ekinops 360 DWDM Platform to work with an SDN Controller

SDN and NFV are two worldwide recognized pillars of upcoming 5G networks. But as experienced with past technology evolutions, it is necessary to prepare for and steer the transition; thus a migration phase is needed to integrate, moving legacy networks towards the new 5G paradigms.

b<>com is developing add-on modules, based on open-source SDN controllers (OpenDayLight and ONOS) in order to integrate access & 5G Core VNFs as well as support for legacy interfaces and network components and protocols. With NETCONF, CLI and OpenFlow support, it offers a solid base for this transition of current networks towards 5G, enabling a smoother migration.

Thanks to those developments, b<>com was able to propose an interface layer mediation as an SDN brick to enable the interoperability of Ekinops' 360 DWDM (dense wavelength division multiplexing) system with ONOS (Open Network Operating System), an open-source SDN network operating system for Service Providers.

"The evolution of 5G networks requires more flexibility and autonomy in their operation. It is based on SDN and NFV concepts. The interface layer developed with Ekinops fully meets those promises." says **Xavier Priem, Business Developer for the Networks & Security field of activity at b<>com.**

"The interoperability experiment was extremely successful," says **Francois Xavier Ollivier, Ekinops' Chief Technical Officer.** *"In light of the increasing interest in SDN, this demonstrates Ekinops' commitment to offering service providers DWDM Layer 1 solutions that are proven to be SDN-aware".*

With this collaboration, b<>com is working on the SDNization of today's networks, preparing the path to 5G architectures and solutions.

About Ekinops

Ekinops is a leading supplier of next generation optical transport equipment for telecommunications service providers. The Ekinops 360 addresses Metro, Regional, and Long-Haul applications with a single, highly-integrated platform. Ekinops is a market-leading innovator in 100G transport with a coherent line of products that truly optimizes optical networks and comes in 1RU, 2RU or 7RU chassis. The Ekinops 360 relies on the highly-programmable Ekinops T-Chip® (Transport-on-a-Chip) architecture that enables fast, flexible and cost-effective delivery of new services for high-speed, high-capacity transport. Using the Ekinops 360 carrier-grade system, operators can simply increase capacity of their networks – CWDM, DWDM, Ethernet, ESCON, Fibre Channel, SONET/SDH, and uncompressed video (HD-SDI, SD-SDI, ASI). Ekinops is headquartered in Lannion, France, and Ekinops Corp., a wholly-owned subsidiary, is incorporated in the USA. For more information, visit www.ekinops.net

About b<>com

With its innovations, the Institute of Research and Technology (IRT) b<>com is taking part in the European digital transformation. Its 230 researchers develop tools, products, and services that make everyday life easier. They focus on two fields of research: Hypermedia (ultra-high definition images, 3D sound, smart content, virtual and augmented reality) and more agile ultra-high speed networks (cloud, cybersecurity, ultra-high speed mobile, network resilience, Internet of Things). Of the many fields of application for these technologies, e-health has allowed b<>com to participate in the digital revolution going on in medicine. Founded through a public/private partnership, the IRT gathers the best experts from industry and academia at its campus in Rennes, and at its sites in Lannion and Brest. Since its creation in 2012, the IRT has grown 30% a year.

www.b-com.com

About SDN platforms

<http://onosproject.org/>
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